

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Information Disclosure Statement

The Information Disclosure Statement filed 6/23/2005 has been fully considered and is attached hereto. The Examiner notes the first of two EP documents listed under the "Foreign Patent Documents" section which cites EP 0698820 which is inconsistent with the international search report which cites EP 0693820. The Examiner has thus struck through and entered the correct EP citation which has been fully considered.

The Applicant's are invited to submit a new IDS with the proper EP citation if it is deemed necessary.

Specification

2. Applicant is reminded of the proper content of an abstract of the disclosure.

A patent abstract is a concise statement of the technical disclosure of the patent and should include that which is new in the art to which the invention pertains. If the patent is of a basic nature, the entire technical disclosure may be new in the art, and the abstract should be directed to the entire disclosure. If the patent is in the nature of an improvement in an old apparatus, process, product, or composition, the abstract should include the technical disclosure of the improvement. In certain patents, particularly those for compounds and compositions, wherein the process for making and/or the use

thereof are not obvious, the abstract should set forth a process for making and/or use thereof. If the new technical disclosure involves modifications or alternatives, the abstract should mention by way of example the preferred modification or alternative.

The abstract should not refer to purported merits or speculative applications of the invention and should not compare the invention with the prior art.

Where applicable, the abstract should include the following:

(1) if a machine or apparatus, its organization and operation;

Extensive mechanical and design details of apparatus should not be given.

The presently filed Abstract is merely a copy of the first page of WO 2004/057746 which is improper. The Examiner requests that the Applicants file a proper abstract as per 37 CFR 1.72.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Leonard Holtz (22,974) on 8/13/2008.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 23 the recitation, "claim 3" should be changed to recite, - - claim 15 - -.

Below is an amendment to the record which has not been authorized by Mr. Holtz since it was discovered after the interview dated 8/13/08. These amendments are believed to be non substantive.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 13, line 10, "an electric motor" should be changed to recite, - - said electric motor - -.

In claim 16, line 3, "(2546)" should be changed to recite, - - (25, 26) - -.

In claim 20, line 3, "(2546)" should be changed to recite, - - (245, 26) - -.

The examiner notes that the changes to claim 16 and 20 are based upon the recitation of claim 38, line 4.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 13-42 are allowed.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With respect to claim 13, the allowability resides in the overall structure of the device as recited in independent claim 13 and at least in part because claim 13 recites, "said one or more power modules are connected to said DC input terminals and said AC output terminals via conductive layers which are electrically insulated from each other".

The aforementioned limitations in combination with all remaining limitations of claim 13 are believed to render said claim 13 and all claims dependent therefrom (Claims 14-42) patentable over the art of record.

The closest art of record is believed to be that of Yamane et al. (US 6,327,165 – hereinafter, “Yamane”) which teaches (In Figs 1-2) an inverter type motor drive unit for feeding AC electric power of variable parameters to an electric motor (8), comprising: an electronic control section (5), a power converting and output section (Comprising each of 2-3) controlled by the control section, two input terminals (9P, 9N) for connection to a DC power source (7), and three output terminals (10u, 10v, 10w) for delivering a 3-phase AC power to the electric motor, wherein the power converting and output section comprises: one or more identical power modules (Each pair of IGBT’s or MOSFETS), each comprising a complete 3-phase output stage (U, V, W respectively), said one or more power modules are multiplied by a suitable number (In this instance, 3) and interconnected in parallel to meet the power demand of the actual motor size (See Fig 1), and wherein: said one or more power modules are mounted side by side in a multiplying direction (A – From left to right when viewing Fig 1) on a cooling structure (22) thereby covering a certain surface area substantially corresponding in size to the surface area covered by the actual number of power modules (See Fig 2). Yamane however fails to teach or suggest that “said one or more power modules are connected to said DC input terminals and said AC output terminals via conductive layers which are electrically insulated from each other”.

Further the Examiner does not believe it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the invention of Yamane to include the conductive layers and their respective mounting arrangements as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

US 7,187,568 (and Applications/Publications/Patents associated therewith); US 7,012,810; US 6,359,331 all further disclose inverters.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Zachary M. Pape whose telephone number is 571-272-2201. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.- Fri. 8am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jayprakash Gandhi can be reached on 571-272-3740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Z. M. P./
Examiner, Art Unit 2835

/Jayprakash N Gandhi/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2835